

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 13-15, 17, 19-21, 24-27, 34-36, and 40-42 have been allowed. Claims 13, 26, and 34 are amended above and Applicants respectfully request that these amendments be entered.

#### **Amendments to the Claims**

In their dependent form, claims 13, 26, and 34 could be interpreted to be directed to both a method (as recited in the respective independent claims) and an article of manufacture. As such, Applicants have amended each of claims 13, 26, and 34 into independent claims that are more clearly directed to only one statutory class, i.e., an article of manufacture. Applicants respectfully submit that without these amendments claims 13, 26, and 34 might not be valid and that these amendments are necessary for the proper protection of the claimed invention.

No additional search is required as the amendments merely incorporate subject matter that was already indicated to be allowable.

## **CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully request that the above-listed proposed amendments be entered. As indicated, said claims are necessary for proper disclosure and protection of the invention. In addition, it is believed that the amendments require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 816-474-6550 or [adobrien@shb.com](mailto:adobrien@shb.com) (such communication via email is herein expressly granted) – to resolve the same. Fees have been submitted herewith in connection with the filing of additional independent claims. It is believed that no other fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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